



**Testimony of Dr. Tim Novak
Supporting Senate Bill 382
Senate Health Committee Hearing
Wednesday, March 8, 2000**

Good afternoon Chairperson Moen and members of the Senate Health Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to testify before you today in support of Senate Bill 382. My name is Dr. Tim Novak. I'm an oral surgeon from Waukesha, and I have active practices in the cities of Watertown, Mukwanago and Oconomowoc as well as in Waukesha. I'm here today representing the 2,800 member dentists of the Wisconsin Dental Association and I'm before you today to testify in support of SB 382.

SB 382 would simply allow those of us who are licensed under the Dental Practice Act (Chapter 447 of the state statutes) to purchase into service corporations with individuals licensed under other health care provider statutes.

Currently, Section 180.1903 of the statutes allows individuals holding the SAME license (for example, all dentists) to organize and own shares in a service corporation. This bill simply adds dentists and dental hygienists to the section in Chapter 180 that allows health care professionals who hold different licenses (for example: dentists with physicians) to organize and own shares in the same service corporation. This bill is of particular interest to those of us who are oral surgeons because it would allow us to organize surgery-oriented service corporations with our physician counterparts who are licensed by the Medical Examining Board.

Currently, a variety of health professionals, including physicians, nurses, chiropractors, physical therapists, dieticians, optometrists, psychologists, social workers, and hearing and speech therapists can join together to form a service corporation. Senate Bill 382 would simply level the playing field by allowing both dentists and dental hygienists to join in with any combination of the aforementioned health care professionals in order to organize and own shares in a health care service corporation.

As a practicing oral surgeon here in Wisconsin, I ask you to vote in support of SB 382 and to recommend an expeditious passage of this bill by your colleagues on the Senate floor. Thank you for your time and attention, and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.